

millions more displaced since the conflict with Russia began;

Whereas, on September 1, 2017, the European Union-Ukraine Association Agreement came into effect;

Whereas, in March and November 2021, the Russian Federation deployed a massive troop and weapons buildup on the border with Ukraine;

Whereas, on January 28, 2022, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg stated, “Our aim is . . . to convey a clear message to Russia . . . if they use military force against Ukraine it will have severe consequences. NATO allies are ready to impose heavy economic sanctions—political, financial sanctions.”;

Whereas, on February 12, 2022, President Joseph R. Biden warned Russian President Vladimir Putin that the West “will respond decisively and impose swift and severe costs” if Russia further invades Ukraine; and

Whereas, on December 12, 2021, at a meeting in Liverpool, delegates of the Group of Seven (G7) released a joint statement saying, “Russia should be in no doubt that further military aggression against Ukraine would have massive consequences and severe cost in response. . . . We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as the right of any sovereign state to determine its own future.”; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE SENATE.

The Senate—

(1) commends the courage, resolve, and restraint shown by the Ukrainian people in their pursuit of sovereignty and democracy, and pays tribute to the many men and women who gave their lives in pursuit of a free and democratic Ukraine;

(2) reaffirms unwavering United States support for a secure, democratic, and independent Ukraine, free to choose its own leaders and future;

(3) condemns the illegal military invasion of Ukraine, the attempted annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation in 2014, and the violence fomented by Russian proxies in eastern Ukraine, an active conflict that continues in 2022;

(4) reaffirms unwavering United States commitment to support the continuing efforts of the Government of Ukraine to restore its territorial integrity by providing political, diplomatic, and military support, including additional lethal and non-lethal security assistance to strengthen the defense capabilities of Ukraine;

(5) denounces the Russian military buildup of over 150,000 troops on Ukraine’s border, including in Belarus, threatening the security of bordering NATO allies as provocative and reckless, contrary to established international norms;

(6) condemns the Russian Federation’s continued disregard of international maritime law by partially blocking parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, which hamper freedom of navigation exercises and significantly impact Ukraine’s economy;

(7) encourages the President that, should any further invasion or other malign activity to undermine the sovereignty of Ukraine occur by Russia, the United States Government should use the tools at its disposal to impose significant costs on the Russian Federation to restore peace in Europe; and

(8) encourages unity among NATO allies and the broader transatlantic community to convey solidarity in response to Russia’s unprovoked military aggression against Ukraine.

SEC. 2. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this resolution may be construed as—

(1) a declaration of war or an authorization for the use of military force against the Russian Federation; or

(2) authorization for the introduction of the United States Armed Forces into Ukraine.

SENATE RESOLUTION 520—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21 THROUGH FEBRUARY 25, 2022, AS “PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK”

Mr. TESTER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 520

Whereas public education is a significant institution in a 21st-century democracy;

Whereas public schools in the United States are where students come to be educated about the values and beliefs that hold the individuals of the United States together as a nation;

Whereas public schools prepare young individuals of the United States to contribute to the society, economy, and citizenry of the country;

Whereas 90 percent of children in the United States attend public schools;

Whereas Federal, State, and local lawmakers should—

(1) prioritize support for strengthening the public schools of the United States;

(2) empower superintendents, principals, and other school leaders to implement, manage, and lead school districts and schools in partnership with educators, parents, and other local education stakeholders; and

(3) support services and programs that are critical to helping students engage in learning, including counseling, extracurricular activities, and mental health support;

Whereas public schools should foster inclusive, safe, and high-quality environments in which children can learn to think critically, problem solve, and build relationships;

Whereas public schools should provide environments in which all students have the opportunity to succeed beginning in their earliest years, regardless of who a student is or where a student lives;

Whereas Congress should support—

(1) efforts to advance equal opportunity and excellence in public education;

(2) efforts to implement evidence-based practices in public education; and

(3) continuous improvements to public education;

Whereas every child should—

(1) receive an education that helps the child reach the full potential of the child; and

(2) attend a school that offers a high-quality educational experience;

Whereas Federal funding, in addition to State and local funds, supports the access of students to inviting classrooms, well-prepared educators, and services to support healthy students, including nutrition and afterschool programs;

Whereas teachers, paraprofessionals, and principals should provide students with a well-rounded education and strive to create joy in learning;

Whereas superintendents, principals, other school leaders, teachers, paraprofessionals, and parents make public schools vital components of communities and are working hard to improve educational outcomes for children across the country; and

Whereas the week of February 21 through February 25, 2022, is an appropriate period to designate as “Public Schools Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates the week of February 21 through February 25, 2022, as “Public Schools Week”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 521—CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. WARNOCK, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. KING, Mrs. HYDESMITH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BURR, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. REED, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WARNER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 521

Whereas, in 1776, people envisioned the United States as a new nation dedicated to the proposition stated in the Declaration of Independence that “all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness”;

Whereas Africans were first brought involuntarily to the shores of the United States as early as the 17th century;

Whereas African Americans suffered enslavement and subsequently faced the injustices of lynch mobs, segregation, and denial of the basic and fundamental rights of citizenship;

Whereas, in 2022, the vestiges of those injustices and inequalities remain evident in the society of the United States;

Whereas, in the face of injustices, people of good will and of all races in the United States have distinguished themselves with a commitment to the noble ideals on which the United States was founded and have fought courageously for the rights and freedom of African Americans and others;

Whereas African Americans, such as Lieutenant Colonel Allen Allensworth, Maya Angelou, Arthur Ashe, Jr., James Baldwin, James Beckwourth, Clara Brown, Blanche Bruce, Ralph Bunche, Shirley Chisholm, Holt Collier, Miles Davis, Louis Armstrong, Larry Doby, Frederick Douglass, W. E. B. Du Bois, Ralph Ellison, Medgar Evers, Aretha Franklin, Alex Haley, Dorothy Height, Jon Hendricks, Olivia Hooker, Lena Horne, Charles